

(09-17-15 Regular Meeting)

**MINUTES OF
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING 6:30 P.M.
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2015**

The Bradford County Board of County Commissioners convened in a regular meeting on Thursday, September 17, 2015, at 6:30 p.m., in the County Commission Chambers at 945 North Temple Avenue, Starke, Florida.

PRESENT: Chairman Chandler, Commissioner Sellars, Commissioner Lewis, Commissioner Thompson, and Commissioner Riddick.

ALSO PRESENT: Brad Carter, County Manager; Jim Farrell, Finance Director; Marlene Stafford, Deputy Clerk; Brian Johns, Emergency Management Director; Jerome Kelley, County Engineer; Paul Funderburk, Road Superintendent; Randy Andrews, Zoning Director; Ron Johnson, Capt. Emergency Medical Services; Sheriff Gordon Smith; Teresa Phillips, Tax Collector; Kelly Canady, Community Development Director; and Bennie Jackson, Solid Waste Director.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Chandler called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**PUBLIC HEARING
SPECIAL USE APPLICATION FOR ESSENTIAL SERVICES**

SPECIAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION NO. SU 15-01, filed by Tower Engineering Professionals, as Agent for Harry Kyle for Proposed Telecommunications Facility in Ag-2 Zoning Classification--Randy Andrews, Zoning Director:

Chairman Chandler recognized Mr. Andrews, who presented the Special Use Application for consideration on parcel no. 05166-0-00100.

Chairman Chandler opened the public hearing. Following brief discussion, the public hearing was closed.

Commissioner Lewis moved, seconded by Commissioner Sellars, and carried 5-0, to approve the Special Use Permit Application as presented.

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FDOT—PRESENTATION—BILL HENDERSON:

Chairman Chandler recognized Mr. Henderson who advised the following:

- The legislature started meeting in January this year instead of March. Therefore, the FDOT schedule has been moved up by about two months. They are soliciting work program projects for the Five-Year Work Program. The Tentative Work Program has not yet been developed.
- Announced and handed out [invites](#) to an upcoming public workshop in Lake City, on Thursday, October 8, from 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. The Tentative Work Program will be presented at this workshop.
- Announced that Mr. Jordan Green has been promoted. The new Rural Transportation Planner is Barney Bennett.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

PAUL STILL—Sampson Lake Water Levels:

Mr. Still made a recommendation for a potential solution to some of the flooding issues in Bradford County, which involve DuPont makes changes to their pumping system and schedule. There would be some cost involved, which in his mind should be borne by St. Johns River Water Management District. He urged the Commission to present this proposal to the two water management districts. If the water management districts are not willing, the Commission could present the proposal directly to DuPont.

This incited discussion.

LYNN BRYAN—Hampton Lake Oaks--Flooding:

Ms. Bryan advised that she is just a few inches away from water intruding her home. She asked the Commission to begin looking for long-term solutions to the flooding issues.

JAMES HICKS--S.E. 66th St. Road Drainage:

Mr. Hicks gave a detailed account of drainage problems on S.E. 66th Street that has existed since 2008. To assist with his explanation, he displayed the plat map for Lake Bedford Shores.

At the recommendation of Chairman Chandler, there was a consensus to authorize further investigation to determine what needs to be done to correct the issues addressed by Mr. Hicks.

At the request of Commissioner Riddick, Mr. Kelley addressed the Commission. He advised that he has been out to this site at least seven times and has met with Suwannee River Water Management District. There are numerous aspects to be considered before anything is done, i.e. erosion, slopes, grades, permitting, and cost.

There was additional discussion.

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JACK PERRY—S.E. 66th St. Road Drainage:

Mr. Perry also addressed the drainage problems on S.E. 66th Street.

DONNIE PORTIS—Pleasant Grove Recreational Park:

Mr. Portis made a request for outdoor fans under the pavilions and a blind to block the sun. There are repairs needed in the restroom and the outdoor water fountain. They are also having some drainage problems due to the heavy rains.

Chairman Chandler advised that the County is responsible for making necessary repairs. However, there are two others parks (Speedville and Lincoln City) that need to be completed before any upgrades can be made to existing parks.

GENE BRANNOCK--Mayor of Hampton--Update: Mayor Brannock commented on the following:

- Based on the Commission's struggle this year while considering additional revenue sources to balance the budget, Mayor Brannock reported on the success of an additional penny sales tax program in York County, South Carolina called "Pennies for Progress". This tax is used for road projects and has been very successful.
- Provided an update on the City of Hampton, i.e. improvements made and future projects and goals.

LILLIE D. STRACHAN--Pleasant Grove Recreational Park:

Based on the minutes of a Budget Workshop held on 08-19-14, Ms. Strachan requested Pleasant Grove's portion of the \$10,000 budgeted in the FY14-15 budget for recreation parks. (Ms. Strachan distributed copies of the minutes from the workshop.) In addition to the other items mentioned by Mr. Portis, Ms. Strachan requested a barbeque pit for the park.

Following discussion, the Board asked Ms. Stafford to review the minutes to see if there were any subsequent discussions following the 08-19-14 budget workshop to clarify the intent; and asked Mr. Farrell to confirm that \$10,000.00 was actually budgeted. Once there is clarification, Commissioner Sellars will contact Ms. Strachan, who can come back to the Board at the next meeting.

Mr. Carter advised that the County would take care of the maintenance issues.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CHARGE OFF EMS ACCOUNTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$181,364.36**
- B. CONSIDER APPROVAL TO AMEND ENGAGEMENT LETTER FROM ROBERT E. TAYLOR, COUNTY ARCHITECT FOR ASSISTANCE ON SHIP GROUP HOME PROJECTS (Increase not to exceed limit from \$1,800 to \$14,650/paid from SHIP funds)--Kelly Canady, Community Development Director**
- C. PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 29, 2015 AS WORLD HEART DAY IN BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA**
- D. PROCLAMATION DECLARING THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER AS NATIONAL HOSPICE PALLIATIVE CARE MONTH IN BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA**
- E. MINUTES OF REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING OF 08-20-15**
- F. FLORIDA RECREATION DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (FRDAP) AGREEMENT FY2015-2016 FOR THE SPEEDVILLE PARK--PROJECT NO. A16034**
- G. FLORIDA RECREATION DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (FRDAP) AGREEMENT FY2015-2016 FOR THE LINCOLN CITY PARK--PROJECT NO. A16074**
- H. AIRGAS CYLINDER LEASE RENEWAL FOR THE ROAD DEPARTMENT--ANNUAL INSTALLMENT \$1,305.30 (Increase of \$5.80 from last year)**

Commissioner Lewis moved, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, and carried 5-0, to approve the [Consent Agenda](#) in its entirety.

APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS--COMMISSIONER RIDDICK:

Commissioner Riddick moved, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, and carried 5-0, to approve payment of the bills as reviewed. (A copy of the Disbursement List is on file in the Finance Department of the Office of the Clerk.)

PRESENTATION BY THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OF AWARDS AND CHECKS FOR THE LINCOLN CITY AND SPEEDVILLE FRDAP GRANTS--Kevin Patton, Park Manager, Gold Head Branch State Park:

(This item was removed from the agenda. It will be presented at the October 5 regular meeting.)

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PRESENTATION BY SUWANNEE RIVER WATER MANAGEMENT REGARDING STATE OF RESOURCES--Carlos Herd, Interim Executive Director:

Chairman Chandler recognized Mr. Herd, who gave a Power-Point presentation highlighting the following:

- Rainfall Stats
- Schedule Minimum Flows and Levels
- Active Projects & Programs
- Achievements

Mr. Herd quoted a portion of a recent "Letter to the Editor" published in the Bradford County Telegraph: "Suwannee River Water Management District staff are saying Bradford County residents must be flooded so the minimum flows and levels set for the lower Santa Fe River at Ft. White can be met." He advised that this statement is irresponsible, baseless and inflammatory. He is not aware of any staff member that has stated that they are going to require a resident to flood for a minimum flow and level. The District has a statutory obligation to provide for the needs of the environment while protecting the interests of its citizens. There are some issues with the DuPont mine and DuPont does have an agreement with the St. Johns River Water Management District. However, there are numerous things that would have to take place before any changes could be made.

The District has partnered with Camp Blanding, by leveraging federal buffer funds to purchase real estate to develop flood mitigation projects and water resource development projects. The District has some of the best engineers, scientists and consultants in the state. The District will fix the flooding issues in Bradford County. Mr. Herd asked the County for two things: To trust that the District is going to do the right thing, and to be patient and give them time.

Discussion ensued, which was not limited to but included DuPont reclamation plans and pumping system.

Incited by inquiry of Commissioner Riddick, Mr. Herd addressed Hampton Lake and the water flow in the canal from Hampton Lake into the Santa Fe River. Mr. Herd advised that the canal can be cleaned out as long as it is not modified; this is considered maintenance and does not require a permit. However, this is a large canal and will require funding. The County can apply for a RIVER grant for both Lake Sampson and Lake Hampton. The grant application will need to include a survey/study to determine where the obstructions are, together with the construction part of the project.

Mr. Carter advised that the Board has already authorized Mr. Kelley to complete and submit a grant application for Sampson Lake. Based on conversations with Commissioner Riddick and Mr. Herd, at the next regular meeting, staff is going to recommend that Mr. Kelly be authorized to apply for a grant for this canal as well. Mr. Herd advised that the grant application deadline is October 30.

Mr. Herd expressed the District's appreciation to Senator Montford and Representative Beshears, as well as the rest of the District's Legislative Delegation for putting the PILT money back in the budget for the coming year. Because the District's board is committed to this program and realizes it's importance, this year's PILT check is actually coming out of the District's savings account. Mr. Herd presented the Commission with a **PILT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) check for \$15,093.45.**

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ROAD MEMORIAL DEDICATIONS--

Commissioner Riddick:

S.E. 109th Street -- Dedicated to the Meng Dairy Family

Commissioner Riddick presented the road memorial dedication for consideration

Commissioner Lewis moved, seconded by Commissioner Sellars, and carried 5-0, to approve the [Road Dedication](#) as presented.

Commissioner Thompson:

N.W. 57th Place -- Dedicated to Dean Cassels

Commissioner Riddick presented the road memorial dedication for consideration

Commissioner Lewis moved, seconded by Commissioner Sellars, and carried 5-0, to approve the [Road Dedication](#) as presented.

PRESENTATION BY TAX COLLECTOR TERESA G. PHILLIPS REGARDING COUNTY-HELD TAX CERTIFICATES THAT ARE ELIGIBLE FOR TAX DEED. *In the event that the Board of County Commissioners desires to pursue application for a tax deed with regard to any of the parcels presented by the Tax collector, formal action by the Board is required.*****

Chairman Chandler recognized Ms. Phillips, who presented [county-held tax certificates](#) that are eligible for tax deed application. Unless the Commission desires to make application for a tax deed, no action is required.

COUNTY ATTORNEY REPORTS--WILL SEXTON:

A. RESOLUTION--CERTIFYING THAT THE MONIES FROM THE EMS COUNTY AWARDS GRANT WILL IMPROVE AND EXPAND THE PRE-HOSPITAL EMS SYSTEM IN BRADFORD COUNTY

Mr. Sexton presented the resolution for consideration and read the title into the record.

Commissioner Lewis moved, seconded by Commissioner Sellars, and carried 5-0, to adopt the Resolution as presented. (The [Resolution was assigned No. 2015-23.](#))

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B. RESOLUTION--CONFIRMING PROCLAMATION DECLARING A STATE OF LOCAL EMERGENCY RESULTING FROM HEAVY RAINFALL

Mr. Sexton presented the resolution for consideration and read the title into the record.

Commissioner Lewis moved, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, and carried 5-0, to adopt the Resolution as presented. (The [Resolution was assigned No. 2015-24.](#))

C. RESOLUTION--PROVIDING FOR THE EXTENSION OF THE 2015 ASSESSMENT ROLLS

Mr. Sexton presented the resolution for consideration and read the title into the record.

Commissioner Sellars moved, seconded by Commissioner Lewis, and carried 5-0, to adopt the Resolution as presented. (The [Resolution was assigned No. 2015-25.](#))

SHERIFF REPORTS--GORDON SMITH:

- Expressed appreciation to County staff and the volunteer fire department for their hard work during the recent flooding, and for the Commissions' support.
- September 26 is the annual unused and expired medication round up. A tent will be set up in the north parking lot of the courthouse and a container in the front lobby of the Sheriff's Office.
- Invited the Commission to visit the jail for a tour of the facilities upgrades and improvements. Part of the upgrades includes a new lock mechanism unique to our system. The second part of the project will include the courthouse. **He requested permission to spend jail set-aside funds to cover the expenditure for the lock mechanism of \$64,000.00**

Mr. Sexton advised that to approve the expenditure, the Board will need to consider it an emergency.

Commissioner Lewis moved, seconded by Commissioner Sellars, and carried 5-0, to declare an emergency to consider the item.

Commissioner Lewis moved, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, and carried 5-0, to approve the expenditure of \$64,000.00 out of jail set-aside funds as requested.

CLERK REPORTS--RAY NORMAN: None.

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COUNTY MANAGER REPORTS--BRAD CARTER:

- A. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 2 ON SHIP FILE NO. 2014-13-S -- Increase of \$320 for Emergency Plumbing Repairs. New Contract Total \$25,580.85 (Retroactively approved on 09-03-15 by County Manager)--Kelly Canady, Community Development Director:**

Ms. Canady presented the change order for consideration.

*Commissioner Thompson moved, seconded by Commissioner Lewis, and **carried 5-0, to approve the Change Order as presented.***

Ms. Canady advised that the Change Order brings the new contract total over the maximum allowable amount of \$25,000, which requires a deviation from the Local Housing Assistance Plan.

*Commissioner Sellars moved, seconded by Commissioner Lewis, and **carried 5-0, to approve the LHAP deviation as requested.***

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS:

Each Commissioner expressed appreciation to County staff members and volunteers who have worked so diligently during the recent heavy rains and flooding.

Commissioner Riddick commented on the following:

- As the Commission to consider entering into an agreement with Alachua County for recycling. \$10,000 was budgeted, but it will probably be about half of that.

Mr. Still asked if it would be possible to authorize Mr. Johns to approach DuPont and request that they adjust their pumping cycle during the state of local emergency.

Mr. Carter recommended consulting with both water management districts before initiating any action of that nature. There was a consensus to go with Mr. Carter's recommendation.

CHAIRMAN COMMENTS--ROSS CHANDLER: None.

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ADJOURN:

*Commissioner Lewis moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Thompson, and **the motion carried 5-0.** There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.*

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BRADFORD COUNTY, FLORIDA**

ROSS CHANDLER, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:_____
RAY NORMAN, CLERK TO THE BOARD

Minutes prepared by Marlene Stafford, Deputy Clerk

Minutes approved by BOCC at the Regular Scheduled Meeting of _____